



# **Scoping the Local Plan Review**

**DRAFT September 2014**

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This document has been prepared jointly by Lancashire County Council, Blackpool Council and Blackburn with Darwen Borough Council.

Further details of the local plan, and to download this and other documents, please visit our website [www.lancashire.gov.uk/mwdf](http://www.lancashire.gov.uk/mwdf). Or contact:

- Lancashire County Council, PO Box 100, Cross Street, County Hall, Preston, PR1 0LD
- Telephone: 01772 534294
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## 1. Introduction

The minerals and waste planning authorities of Lancashire County Council, Blackpool Council and Blackburn with Darwen Borough Council (the Joint Authorities) intend to review the Joint Lancashire Minerals and Waste Local Plan.

The Local Plan consists of:

- an adopted Core Strategy (2009), containing strategic policies and identifying need; and
- an adopted Site Allocation and Development Management Policies Local Plan (2013) which seeks to implement Core Strategy policy through land allocations and development management policies.

These can be viewed at [www.lancashire.gov.uk/mwdf](http://www.lancashire.gov.uk/mwdf) or your local library or main council office.

### 1.1 Reason for the Review

The NPPG states that most Local Plans are likely to require updating in whole or in part at least every five years. It is five years since the adoption of the Core Strategy; consequently a review of the principles and evidence, and the policies developed to implement them, is timely.

The Local Plan has a plan period to 2021. As part of the review the plan period will be rolled forwards to cover a 15 year period (as recommended in the NPPF) from 2017 (the anticipated date of adoption) to 2032.

### 1.2 Timetable for review

The first stage in this review is to consult with stakeholders on the scope of the review to identify issues that may be relevant to the review. This Scoping Document is accompanied by the Local Aggregate Assessment, Local Waste Assessment, and Sustainability Appraisal Scoping Report.

There will be opportunities to make detailed comments on the revised Local Plan during 2015. The timetable for the review is described in the Minerals and Waste Development Scheme 2014-2017. It is summarised below:

- **Winter 2014** - Scoping consultation to invite comments on what the review of the local plan should contain, and to identify the issues from the evidence, under section 18 of the Town and Country (Local Planning) (England) Regulations 2012
- **Summer 2015** - Preferred options consultation to invite comments on proposed changes (vision, objectives policies and allocations) to address the

issues identified in the scoping consultation, under section 18 of the Town and Country (Local Planning) (England) Regulations 2012

- **Spring 2016** - Publication consultation to invite comments on the revised Local Plan prior to submission to the Secretary of State, under section 19 and 20 of the Town and Country (Local Planning) (England) Regulations 2012
- **Summer 2016** - Submission to the Secretary of State, under section 20 of the Planning and Compulsory Purchase Act 2004
- **Summer 2016** - Examination in Public
- **Summer 2017** - Adoption

### 1.3 Making comments on the scope of the review

Consultation at this stage is intended to inform the scope and general content of the review and is targeted at key stakeholders, though anybody may respond to the consultation. This consultation seeks to ensure any issues which may influence the content of the review are identified at the beginning of the process.

If you have any suggestions to make on the review please send them, with your name and address, to the address below before the end of the **xxxxxxx 2014**:

Planning Team  
Lancashire County Council Environment Directorate  
Room C4  
PO Box 100  
County Hall  
PRESTON  
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- Or by email at: [lmwf@lancashire.gov.uk](mailto:lmwf@lancashire.gov.uk)
- or use our 'Have your say' website at:  
<http://www.lancashire.gov.uk/haveyoursay>

All comments received will be made public, together with your surname and the name of the organisation you represent (addresses and signatures will be removed or censored).

The following section identifies some specific issues relevant to the scope of the review; though you are invited to make comments on any issues that you may feel are relevant to the review.

## 2. Purpose of the scoping consultation

The purpose of the scoping consultation is to consult with stakeholders on the scope of the Local Plan Review - to invite comments on what the review of the Local Plan should contain, and identify the issues from the evidence presented. It seeks to ensure that any issues which may influence the content of the revised Local Plan are identified at the beginning of the drafting process.

The adopted Core Strategy and Site Allocation and Development Management Policies Local Plan have a plan period to 2021. The review is intended to extend this plan period to 2032, 15 years from the proposed adoption date of the reviewed Minerals and Waste Local Plan. Consequently the evidence must be tested to determine whether the current vision, objectives and policies will still be valid over the extended plan period.

The consultation seeks stakeholder views on the following:

- comments on the evidence and scenarios presented in the Local Waste Assessment and Local Aggregate Assessment;
- whether new facilities are needed in response to the evidence presented, with an opportunity to submit suggested sites;
- whether existing policies will remain fit for purpose during the extended plan period to 2032;
- any need for new policies to be added to the Local Plan through the review
- comments on the Sustainability Appraisal scoping report;
- opportunities to combine existing policies together to reduce duplication, when combining the two documents into one.

Presentation of national policy has changed significantly since the adoption of the Core Strategy; the North West Regional Spatial Strategy was revoked in 2011, and most Planning Policy Statements and Minerals Policy Statements were replaced by the National Planning Policy Framework in 2013.

However, the national policy context has not changed significantly.

Delivering the waste hierarchy is still central to the existing and emerging national policy on waste, and a recognition of the economic importance of minerals whilst planning for a steady and adequate supply of minerals (within the context of the managed aggregate supply system), are still central to minerals planning.

This was confirmed by the planning inspector in his report concluding the examination in public on the Site Allocation and Development Management Policies Local Plan.

## 2.1. Any issues with vision and objectives

The vision and objectives act as a framework for managing the change that the plan area faces, and are central to the development of relevant land use policies.

- Issue 1 - Comments are invited on the vision and objectives: are there any issues with the vision and objectives, as they relate to the circumstances now, and as they relate to the circumstances that may apply in 20 years; are they still valid for the proposed extended plan period?

## 2.2 Opportunities to amalgamate similar policies and reduce duplication

As part of the review the Core Strategy and Site Allocation and Development Management Policies Local Plan will be combined together into one document, to improve the user friendliness of the minerals and waste local plan. To achieve this it is proposed that the following policies could be amalgamated, in whole or in part, to reduce duplication.

Site Allocation Local Plan Policy	Core Strategy Policy
DM1 and NPPF1	
DM2	CS5 and CS9
M2	CS1
	CS2 and CS6 and CS7
SA1 and M3	CS5
WM1	CS8
WM2 and WM3	CS9
WM4	CS9
LF1	CS7
M1	CS3 and CS4

- Issue 2 - Comments are invited on the proposed amalgamation of similar policies, and any other opportunities to reduce duplication.

## 2.3 Any issues with the existing policies

The annual monitoring report presents information on the implementation of the Local Development Scheme, and the implementation of policies of the adopted Local Plan. It has not identified any issues with the implementation of existing policies. The review is an opportunity to introduce new policies, to respond to new national policy or emerging issues in the plan area, for example shale gas.

- Issue 3 - Comments are invited on whether there is any need for new policies to be added to the Local Plan.

## 2.4 Any issues with the evidence presented

The Local Plan identifies the objectively assessed need for the plan period 2006-2021; it also identifies land sufficient to meet this need. The Local Waste Assessment and Local Aggregate Assessment, prepared annually as part of the

monitoring of the Local Plan, update this objectively assessed need using more up to date evidence.

These assessments present information on aggregate and waste arisings and projections over a 15/20 year period, and present information on the current permitted facilities capable of meeting that projected demand. These are summarised below in section 2.4.1 and 2.4.2. It can be seen from these that it is likely that the extension to the plan period will result in a need to allocate more sites for some mineral types, and there may be a need for limited new allocations for waste facilities in certain parts of the plan area, including landfill void, to meet projected demand.

- Issue 4 - Comments are invited on the scenarios for assessing objectively assessed need identified in the Local Aggregate Assessment and Local Waste Assessment (and the assumptions underlying them), with a view to identifying objectively assessed need:
  - Issue 4.1 – The Local Waste Assessment presents information on **waste arisings**. It uses the most up to date information on arisings available, and presents this alongside Core Strategy assumptions. These arisings figures are projected forwards using growth rate assumptions to provide some estimates of future demand for waste management facilities. Comments are invited on these future projections of demand, and the assumptions that have informed them, with a view to identifying the objectively assessed need.
  - Issue 4.2 – The Local Waste Assessment presents **information on the types of waste management capacity that may be required to manage the projected arisings**, using adopted recycling targets projected forwards where appropriate. Comments are invited on these future projections of demand, and the assumptions that have informed them, with a view to identifying the objectively assessed need.
  - Issue 4.3 – The Local Waste Assessment presents **information on estimates of existing waste management capacity available to meet the estimates of future demand**, using Environment Agency lists of permitted facilities and on waste throughputs, as recommended by national planning guidance. Comments are invited on these figures, and the assumptions that have informed them, with a view to identifying the objectively assessed need.
  - Issue 4.4 – The Local Aggregate Assessment presents **information on estimates of future demand for aggregates**. In line with the NPPF future projections of demand are presented using the average of the past 10 years sales data for sand and gravel, gritstone, and limestone, and compared to the 2011 North West Regional Aggregate Working Party Subregional apportionment guidelines. These are presented alongside the Core Strategy apportionment figures for context.

Comments are invited on these future projections of demand, and the assumptions that have informed them, with a view to identifying the objectively assessed need.

- Issue 4.5 – The Local Aggregate Assessment presents **information on the supply options available to meet the estimates of future demand**. In line with the NPPG information is presented on aggregate movements, permitted reserves, and alternative sources of supply including recycled aggregate and marine dredged aggregates. Comments are invited on these assumptions and evidence on supply options, with a view to identifying the objectively assessed need.
- Issue 5 – Comments are invited on whether existing policies will remain fit for purpose during the extended plan period to 2032 in light of the scenarios for assessing objectively assessed need, and whether there is any need for new allocations for quarries, landfill sites, or waste management facilities (including suggested new allocations) to contribute to meeting objectively assessed need.



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